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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 5 Dec. 1951

SUBJECT Opinions of North Korean Political Leaders on the
Cease-Fire Discussions

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1C
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. There was no discussion of an armistice in North Korea until about 25 June when the USSR called for support of her truce proposal. Because of the Soviet instructions the North Korean government and the pro-Soviet clique in the Labor Party agreed to hold the cease-fire talks despite differences about other matters. PANG Hak-se, Chief of the State Security Bureau, told the staff on 5 July: "We should sacrifice smaller things for larger ends. We should accept not only the end of the war at the 38th parallel but air inspection by the United Nations as well." KIM Hyok (金赫), Chief of the Labor Party Press Section said on 8 July: "A directive from the Soviet Union is a categorical imperative and leaves no room for discussion."
2. North Koreans of the Yenan group, however, are opposed to a cease-fire on Soviet lines which they believe requires peace at any sacrifice, while the Chinese Communists want to end the war only under conditions favorable to them. The Yenan group, which is strong because it is numerically the largest group in North Korea and is aided by the Chinese Communist intervention, argues for support of the Chinese Communists as the only power which can and did aid the North Koreans, and is against acceptance of political orders from the Soviet Union, which abandoned them.
3. All agree, however, that if the United Nations withdraw and leave the ROK Army to defend the country, the North Koreans can win Korea regardless of arms given to the ROK. Therefore, the only important Communist objective is to force the United Nations withdrawal from Korea, and the Communists are willing to do anything to achieve this. Furthermore, the North Korean Labor Party is confident of victory in any general elections in Korea, even if supervised by the UN, because of the established Labor Party organization.
4. An official of the Young Friends Party (CHONG U Tang) said on 7 July that the armistice negotiations would be delayed by NAM IL until the opinions of the North Korean political leaders were unified, and said that the greatest difficulty in reaching a cease-fire agreement was the question of air inspection.

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